

Senate File 437 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 437
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1032)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to injectable authority for optometrists.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 154.1, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code
2 2017, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. An optometrist licensed under this chapter may employ
4 all diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the
5 purpose of diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human
6 eye and adnexa pursuant to this subsection, excluding the use
7 of sub-Tenon, botulinum toxin, and retrobulbar injections or
8 injections other than to counteract an anaphylactic reaction
9 which penetrate the globe, and notwithstanding section 147.107,
10 may without charge supply any of the above pharmaceuticals
11 to commence a course of therapy. A licensed optometrist may
12 perform minor surgical procedures and use medications for the
13 diagnosis and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions
14 of the eye and adnexa. A license to practice optometry under
15 this chapter does not authorize the performance of surgical
16 procedures which require ~~the use of injectable or~~ general
17 anesthesia, moderate sedation, penetration of the globe, or
18 the use of ophthalmic lasers for the purpose of ophthalmic
19 surgery within or upon the globe. Injectable anesthesia
20 may only be used for eyelid procedures used to treat eyelid
21 cysts, chalazia, and papillomas. The removal of pterygia and
22 Salzmann's nodules, incisional corneal refractive surgery, and
23 strabismus surgery are prohibited.

24 EXPLANATION

25 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

27 This bill makes changes to the types of actions which may be
28 performed by an optometrist. Previously, an optometrist could
29 not use injections other than to counteract an anaphylactic
30 reaction. Under the bill, an optometrist cannot use sub-Tenon,
31 botulinum toxin, and retrobulbar injections or injections which
32 penetrate the globe. The bill also removes a prohibition on
33 the performance of surgical procedures which require the use
34 of injectable anesthesia by licensed optometrists but limits
35 such use to eyelid procedures to treat eyelid cysts, chalazia,

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1 and papillomas.